

# Minutes – FirstNet

**Monday, September 16, 2013**

**4:00 – 4:45 pm Eastern**

**National Governor’s Association  
Conference Call - Update on  
FirstNet**

## **FACILITORS**

Alishia Powell, Public Safety Advisory Committee

## **ATTENDEES**

Julie Jones, DHSMV Director  
Dave Westberry  
Brett Boston  
FloridaNet Executive Committee Members  
and State members of FirstNet

## **OBJECTIVES**

Three Main Topics for the call:

- Regional Meetings Update
- PSAC Role
- Discussion of next 6 months

The objective of the listening sessions was to provide a venue for FirstNet to provide concepts with the states.

## **MINUTES**

Feedback was gathered from the 6 regional listening tours from NGA.

### **Feedback Themes:**

1. Still a real hunger and desire for information from FirstNet. Frustration with lack of info regarding FirstNet and the SLIG-P roll-out.
2. FirstNet Board is working on grant roll-out.
3. Hunger from states for governance models – roles, responsibilities between states and FirstNet.
4. Memorandum of Agreement rollout. States want models and who is responsible for the agreements.
5. States want FirstNet business plan. How does funding work? How do you work out your business case with local and tribal entities? Want this sooner rather than later.
6. Tribal sovereignty – how FirstNet can deal directly with tribes? The legislation does not authorize this consultation process.
7. Clarifying coverage area as not covering every square inch of the country with towers. Transportable, in car solutions in rural areas v. tower.
8. Concerns about having an information package that can be shared within the states. FirstNet not telling anyone at a local level what to do. Routinize and standardize the information sent out.
9. Opt-out info being sent that clarifies the issue.
10. FirstNet coordination with federal partners. States first, then bring in the Feds.

11. Competition with carriers, particularly with rural carriers. FN will leverage existing infrastructure.
12. Issues raised with international borders. Cross-border discussions underway.

### **FirstNet Actions Underway**

FirstNet is planning to conduct several waves of outreach to states.

When states have a plan, FN will work with states to deal with coverage issues within states. FirstNet coverage maps being shared.

FirstNet beginning to work with states on the technical issues of the plan.

There will be a meeting that will be with states to discuss plan prior to opt-in/opt-out.

Beginning to look at areas where NGA can stay in the mix and provide the states with support to FirstNet.

### **Role of the PSAC**

Public Safety Advisory Committee – appointed by the FirstNet board and PSAC reports to the Board.

Internal FirstNet Issues Overview:

FirstNet staffing up. Bill D’Augustino, New deputy manager (missed name), Director of Government Relations – Ed Parkinson. Christy Wilde – tribal outreach. Vicki Lee – state and local outreach.

FirstNet has recently announced that it will follow 10 FEMA regions and put up to 3 staff in each FEMA region to work with states. Co-locating with FEMA in 6 locations and will work with state FirstNet teams to help with plans. These listed positions are Federal and just announced. (Posting on USA jobs.)  
FirstNet HQ in VA, near Dulles. Tech team in Orange County, CA.

### **PSAC Tasks**

First PSAC meeting in CA last week with Bill and 5 board members.  
Reviewed fiscal 2014 FirstNet business plan.

3 tasks given to PSAC–

1. Feedback on over the horizon human factor elements – broadband needs in public sector. How will broadband change your needs and job. (There was a national survey, but Florida team did not received the link.)
2. Development of use cases by discipline to help with what use and appliances will be offered on the network.
3. Deal with ID management credentialing at local level. Need a nationwide scheme. Using DOJ model and others and whitepaper will be shared with states.

**FirstNet shared the following with PSAC:**

Focused on business plan. \$194M budget approved.

Main elements of business plan are:

1. Network partners – find and identify – 50 responses received from RFI and info received will inform the RFP.
2. Mandates – building a portion of the core network, continuing with consultations, building state plans. Not one-size fits all, but a mosaic of systems and strategies across the nations. Work on joint endeavor to develop budget. This will answer questions for states and governors.
3. Early movers – e.g., New Mexico. Looking for opportunities to move others forward quickly. FirstNet working to get greater clarity on early opt-in. Looking for early adopters.
4. Portable hot spots – not covering every square inch, but thru new technologies that allow users to take the network with you.
5. Wireless devices – stimulate the ecosystem for band 14 chip set to bring down cost.

**Technical briefing side:**

What will the network provide?

Voice is non-mission critical to start. Critical voice will not come until the public safety community and FirstNet agree that it is a priority offering and is technically ready to go.

Offerings: Video, data storage, record keeping, location, dynamic priority access, etc...

Not great clarity of current timing for rollout and major efforts. FirstNet wants network partners by end of FY '14. Third or fourth quarter ready to present to governors for first movers. Ambitious, but targeted.

FirstNet is anticipating putting forward state plans on a rolling basis. They need to start turning some revenue. They anticipate being able to present the early adopter states and governors with a plan well before SLIG-P grant would anticipate these activities.

Trying to address the misalignment of SLIG-P with FirstNet. It is an issue.

Who are we to reach out to at FirstNet?

TJ Kennedy is best contact. Not currently staff for states to reach to.

**Next Steps:**

1. Sending notes from meeting
2. Will set up a call in 3-4 weeks to update states